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《电影音乐》前言至第四章的汉译及翻译技巧评析

The Chinese Translation of
Film Music from Preface to Chapter Four and an Analysis of
the Skills Used in the Translation

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Abstract

This thesis has studied the Chinese translation of *Film Music* from Preface to Chapter Four, concluding that based on thorough translation preparations, translators should adopt literal translation as main translation technique and flexibly employ other certain translation techniques as complement to deal with such text type as popular science readings. Necessary preparations for translating the book have been concluded such as studying the translation object to figure out its text type and translation purpose, pre-text reading for background knowledge and building up glossary. This thesis has also analyzed various translation techniques used for certain difficult sentences from both the lexical and syntactic angles when literal translation fails to fulfill an excellent job. Lexical translation techniques such as amplification, conversion and domestication as well as syntactic translation techniques like sequence altering and separating have been particularly reviewed. By studying the problems occurred during the translation, this thesis has pointed out that being a qualified translator should not only acquire language competence but also read extensively to accumulate sufficient knowledge on various subjects.

Key words: *Film Music*; translation preparation; translation techniques

摘 要

作为翻译硕士专业学位论文，这一论文以《电影音乐》一书前言至第四章的英汉翻译为例，分析总结出在翻译科普性文本时，应在认真完成译前准备的基础上，采取直译法为主，并结合具体情况灵活采用其他翻译方法作为补充的策略。论文在译前准备阶段，总结了翻译实践前的相关准备工作，如分析翻译目标文本以确定其文本类型和翻译活动目的；进行电影音乐相关主题的前文本阅读以了解该主题基本信息；建立详尽的词汇表以便翻译过程中规范术语翻译等。在译例分析阶段，论文从词汇和句法两个角度，结合具体的译例细致分析了本次翻译实践过程中，当直译法不能准确表达意义时，采用的增译法、转译法、归化法等词汇翻译技巧，调整句子语序，拆分句子等句法翻译技巧。论文针对翻译过程中暴露的问题和不足，提出一名合格的译者不仅应精通汉英双语，也应广泛阅读，储备充足的知识，从而更好地应对不同领域的翻译任务。

关键词： 《电影音乐》 译前准备 翻译技巧

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Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction to the Translation Project

Compared to the traditional graduate education of English Language and Literature major, the Master of Translation and Interpreting (MTI) program focuses more on the translation practices and exercises in daily courses. The aim of MTI education is to make students acquire comprehensive translation skills, accumulate abundant experiences, get familiar with various translation theories and become qualified to efficiently fulfill translation assignments in different fields such as economy, science, law and so on. Thus, after three years of expertise training and plenty of translation exercises, the author tries to finish certain translation projects on his own to examine whether he has reached the requirements of MTI education and become a competent translator.

The author has decided to cooperate with another classmate, Wang Lin to finish the translation project. The author and his colleague have chosen an English-written academic book, *Film Music* as the translation target and divided it into two parts. The author will translate the first part, which starts from the preface to Chapter Four of *Film Music* and leave the rest chapters to his partner. After the accomplishment of translation of this book, the author then will analyze the translation version in details. The difficulties and problems occurred during the translating process will be studied, while the translation techniques or choices in certain sentences will be analyzed. By analyzing the translation version, the author hopes to conclude such translation procedures and translation techniques that can be referred to when similar type of tasks involved in the future and to accumulate valuable experiences so that problems or mistakes existed in the author's translation version can be avoided in the future.

The thesis is made up of four parts. The first part is the introduction, in which the basic information about the translation project will be unveiled. The second part consists of the source text, which is written in English and the author's translation

version in Chinese. The third part is about analyzing and studying of the translation version. The last part will conclude the analysis results so that valuable translation experiences can be found.

1.2 Introduction to *Very Short Introductions* and *Film Music*

The *Very Short Introductions* series has been a popular science reading series published by the Oxford University Press publishing house since 1995. Since its publication, the series has gained wide popularity around the world, receiving more than five million copies and published in more than 25 languages. The series tries its best to include concise fundamental information and concise knowledge of particular subjects in plain language for general audience, who know little or even nothing about them previously. Therefore *Very Short Introductions* series is the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Though the language is not difficult for general audience to understand, they are still written by experts in the field. While authors in each book may present their own personal viewpoints and insights, the books in the series are intended to be balanced as well as thought provoking. Besides, intended for readers' self-studying in the future, each book in the series also contains suggestions in the specific area for further reading. With these advantages, *The Times* reviews it as “a fascinating series of ‘all you need to know’ introductions by experts on complex topics”. Up to this day, the *Very Short Introductions* series has covered more than 300 academic disciplines in science, art, culture and other fields. The Oxford University Press publishing house states that “the series will encompass every major academic discipline, offering all students an accessible and abundant reference library.”

Film Music is the 231st book among the *Very Short Introductions* series, written by Kathryn Kalinak and published in 27th May, 2010. Kathryn Kalinak is currently the Professor of English and Film Studies at Rhode Island College, where her teaching interests include silent film, film music, and Disney. She is one of the leading authorities on the film music field and has contributed to numerous film journals, handbooks, encyclopedias, and anthologies. In the *Film Music*, Professor Kalinak

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